

BIDENS COMOSA THREELOBED BEGGARTICKS

Threelobed Beggarticks is an annual with erect, branched stems rising up to 15-100 cm tall. The opposite, narrowly elliptic leaves, 4-14 cm long, have serrated margins and short petioles. Foliage is glabrous. Flower heads are borne on long stalks in an open inflorescence at the top of the plant. The outer involucral bracts of each head are leafy and 2-7 cm long, while the inner bracts are thin and much smaller. Disk flowers are pale yellow, and ray flowers are lacking. The flattened seeds have 2-4 minutely barbed awns that stick to clothing. Flowering in late July-September

The BIDENS genus is distinguished by the combination of awned seeds, opposite leaves, and dimorphic involucral bracts. This species is distinguished from others in our area by undivided leaves and lack of ray flowers.